

## Man's Greatest Need is God's Greatest Deed, Part 3 - Acts 13:32-41 - February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008

- Here the Apostle Paul is preaching a sermon at the synagogue in Pisidian Antioch, on this his first missionary journey with Barnabas.
- I suppose you could say that today's sermon is about a sermon. Bare with me a moment before you check out and or try to slip out.

- There's a reason why Luke, by the Holy Spirit, recorded Paul's sermon here in Acts for us read, hear and heed almost 2000 years later.
- Paul preaches and teaches a number of truths that speak to the longing, nagging and gnawing need of everyone who's ever lived.

- God knows our greatest needs, and meets our deepest needs, because of His unfathomable love for us.
- That's how He created us. The greatest need that we have is for Him, and His unfailing love for us.

**Proverbs 19:22a** What a man desires is unfailing love; NIV

**Proverbs 20:6** Many a man claims to have unfailing love, but a faithful man who can find? NIV

**John 15:13** Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. KJV

**Psalms 107:8-9** 8 Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men, 9 for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things. NIV

- To me, Acts 13 is a teaching that not only identifies man's greatest needs, but God's greatest deeds to meet the needs of His creation.
- We've been looking at a number of these needs over the last couple of weeks, and we'll look at the last two in today's study.

**1. Encouragement (Verses 14-16)** Paul seizes the opportunity to speak in the synagogue when asked if he had an encouraging word.

**2. Provision (Verses 17-18)** Paul reminds them how God provided for and even prospered the Israelites while they were in Egypt.

**3. Protection (Verse 19)** Paul then tells them how God protected the Israelites by overthrowing seven nations in the land of Canaan.

**4. Leadership (Verses 20-22)** Paul mentions some leaders God gave them as judges, prophet's and kings especially David.

**5. Salvation (Verses 23-26)** Paul connects the dots by telling them that Jesus was the promised Savior from King David.

**6. Proof (Verses 27-31)** Paul refers to the eye witnesses that prove Jesus was the One Whom the Prophets foretold about.

### **7. Fulfillment (Verses 32-37)**

32 **"We tell you the good news:** What God promised our fathers **33 he has fulfilled for us,** their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is written in the second Psalm: "'You are my Son; today I have become your Father.' 34 The fact that God raised him from the dead, never to decay, is stated in these words: "'I will give you the holy and sure blessings promised to David.' 35 So it is stated elsewhere: "'You will not let your Holy One see decay.' 36 "For when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his fathers and his body decayed. 37 But the one whom God raised from the dead did not see decay.

v32 Paul tells them that this is the good news that God had fulfilled "for them" in what He promised when He raised Jesus from the dead.

v33 He then says that Jesus' resurrection fulfills for them the 2<sup>nd</sup> Psalm which says that Jesus is the resurrected Son of God the Father.

v34 He goes on to say that God raised Him from the dead, fulfilling the prophecy written about Him saying that He wouldn't see decay.

V35-37 Paul cites the other prophecies elsewhere in the scriptures that Jesus' resurrection would fulfill about His body not seeing decay.

- In verse 33 Paul quotes Psalm 2:7:

**Psalms 2:7** I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father. NIV

- In verse 34 Paul quotes Isaiah 55:3:

**Isaiah 55:3** Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David. NIV

- In verse 35 Paul quotes Psalm 16:10:

**Psalms 16:10** ...you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. NIV

- As we'll see in a moment in verse 41 Paul quotes Habakkuk 1:5:

**Habakkuk 1:5** "Look at the nations and watch- and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told. NIV

### **8. Forgiveness (Verses 38-41)**

38 "Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know **that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.** 39 Through him everyone who believes is justified from everything you could not be justified from by the law of Moses. 40 Take care that what the prophets have said does not happen to you: 41 "'Look, you scoffers, wonder and perish, for I am going to do something in your days that you would never believe, even if someone told you."

v38 Paul goes right for the bottom line and proclaims to them the forgiveness of sins through Jesus the Christ.

v39 He goes on to assure them that they can be justified from everything they couldn't be justified from by the law of Moses.

v40 Paul now warns them to not let what the prophets said could happen by returning back to justification by works.

v41 Paul ends his sermon by quoting Habakkuk 1:5 which is a prophecy of how God is going to do the unbelievable through Jesus.

- Question: What's the point? Jesus! That's the point, Jesus! Everything in the Old Testament points to Jesus!

- It's interesting to note that Paul's sermon is very similar to Stephen's sermon some 14 years earlier in Acts 7